

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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FEB 10 2000

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination FormDIVISION OF
OIL, GAS AND MINING

For NPS use only

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Bingham Canyon Mine

and or common Bingham Canyon Mine

2. Location

street & number Sixteen miles southwest of Salt Lake City on Utah 48 not for publication

city, town Salt Lake City X vicinity of

state Utah code 49 county Salt Lake code 035

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Utah Copper Division, Kennecott (Mr. Robert A. Malone, Dir., Environmental Affair.

street & number 10 East South Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84147

city, town vicinity of state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the County Clerk

street & number City and County Building

city, town Salt Lake City state Utah

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date X federal state county local

depository for survey records Historic Sites Survey

city, town Washington, D.C. 20240 state 0005

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☐ altered
☒ expanding

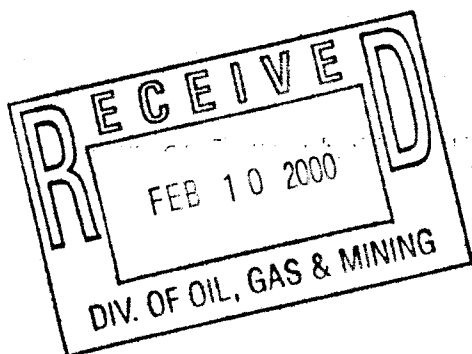
Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Bingham Canyon Mine (open pit copper) is terraced into approximate 50' levels with ramp access between levels. More terraces are added as the mine deepens. In 1983, the mine was more than 2.3 miles wide and a half mile deep. Waste dumps formed from the removal of over burden can be seen from Salt Lake City. Ore is removed from the mine by railroad cars which exit through one of three tunnels or from the edge of the pit. A visitor observation point provides a comprehensive view of the pit.

The boundary line is a rectangle that encompasses the mine pit and its interior. The perimeter of the mine pit is relatively fixed for the next 10 years.



8. Significance

M/039/002

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Bingham Canyon Mine was the first open-pit copper mine in the world. Initiated in 1904, it remained the most productive of all the low-grade copper mines which soon appeared. Today it still yields about 14 percent of all U.S. copper production.

Bingham Canyon flourished as a scene of gold and silver mining from 1863 to 1893. In 1887 Colonel Enos A. Wall discovered and filed claim to the vast deposit of low-grade copper ore that was later to become the open pit mine. With the gold and silver mining still highly profitable, Wall's efforts to finance a copper mining operation were unsuccessful, and in 1903 he sold the property on option to a group of investors who had become interested in the prospect through the efforts of Daniel C. Jackling. Jackling had previously investigated the property and has generally been credited with initiating and promoting the concepts for mining and processing the relatively "low grade" copper ore deposits that has since resulted in open pit copper mines being developed throughout the world. In 1903 the Utah Copper Company was organized and in 1904 completed the Copperton Mill. From 1904 through 1982 the mine has yielded 1,585,936,689 tons of ore, from which 24,696,043,506 pounds of copper were extracted. The immense output of this mine lifted Utah from the ranks of the minor copper-producing states in 1902 to fourth place in the nation by 1919.

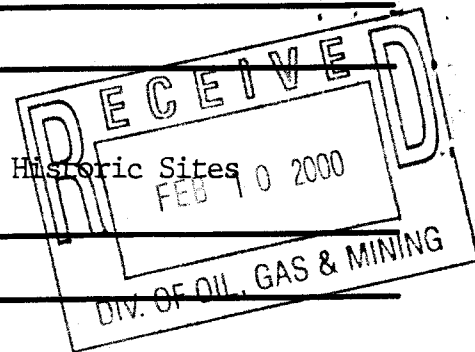


9. Major Bibliographical References

Bancroft, Hubert H., History of Utah, 1889.

Rickard, Thomas A., A History of American Mining, 1932.

Snell, Charles W., "Bingham Canyon Open Pit Copper Mine," Historic Sites Survey report, 1966.



10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 2000

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References

A

1	2
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4	0	4	3	6	0
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4	4	8	8	0	0	0
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Zone Easting

Northing

B

1	2
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4	0	4	3	2	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	4	8	4	0	5	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone Easting

Northing

C

1	2
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4	0	1	1	0	0
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4	4	8	4	1	8	0
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D

1	2
---	---

4	0	1	1	6	0
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4	4	8	8	0	8	0
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E

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary of the Bingham Canyon Mine is delineated by the polygon whose vertices are marked and situated by the UTM References listed above.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Stephen Lissandrello, Historian, Landmarks Boundary Review Project

organization Historic Sites Survey, National Park Service date 12/20/75

street & number 1100 L Street, N.W. telephone 202-523-5464

city or town Washington, state D.C. 20240

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

title _____ date _____

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register


Keeper of the National Register

date 4/16/84

Attest:

Chief of Registration

date _____

BINGHAM CANYON OPEN PIT MINE
SALT LAKE CITY VIC., UTAH

USGS 7.5 MINUTE SERIES

BINGHAM CANYON, UTAH (1952 PHOTO
REVISED 1969)

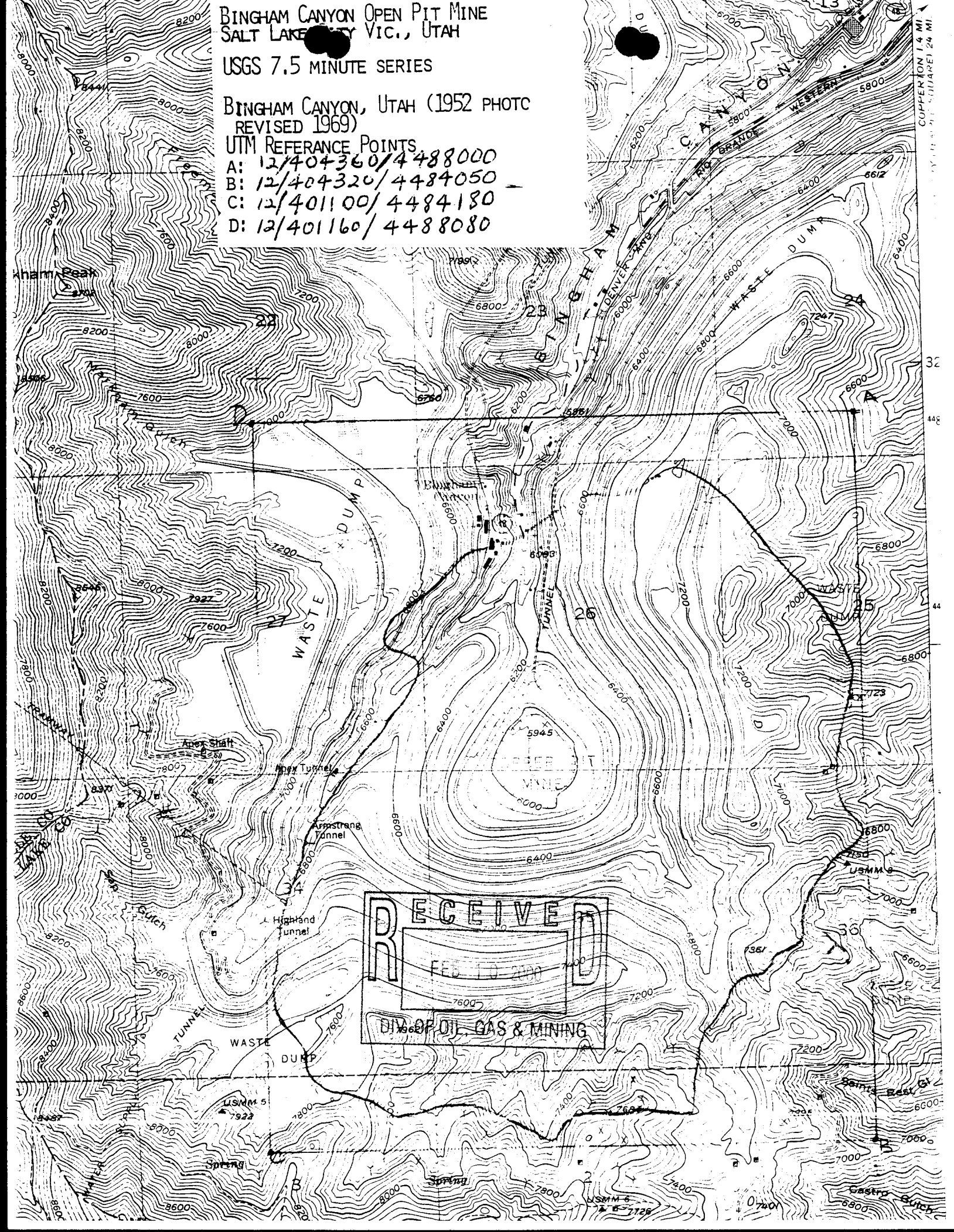
UTM REFERENCE POINTS

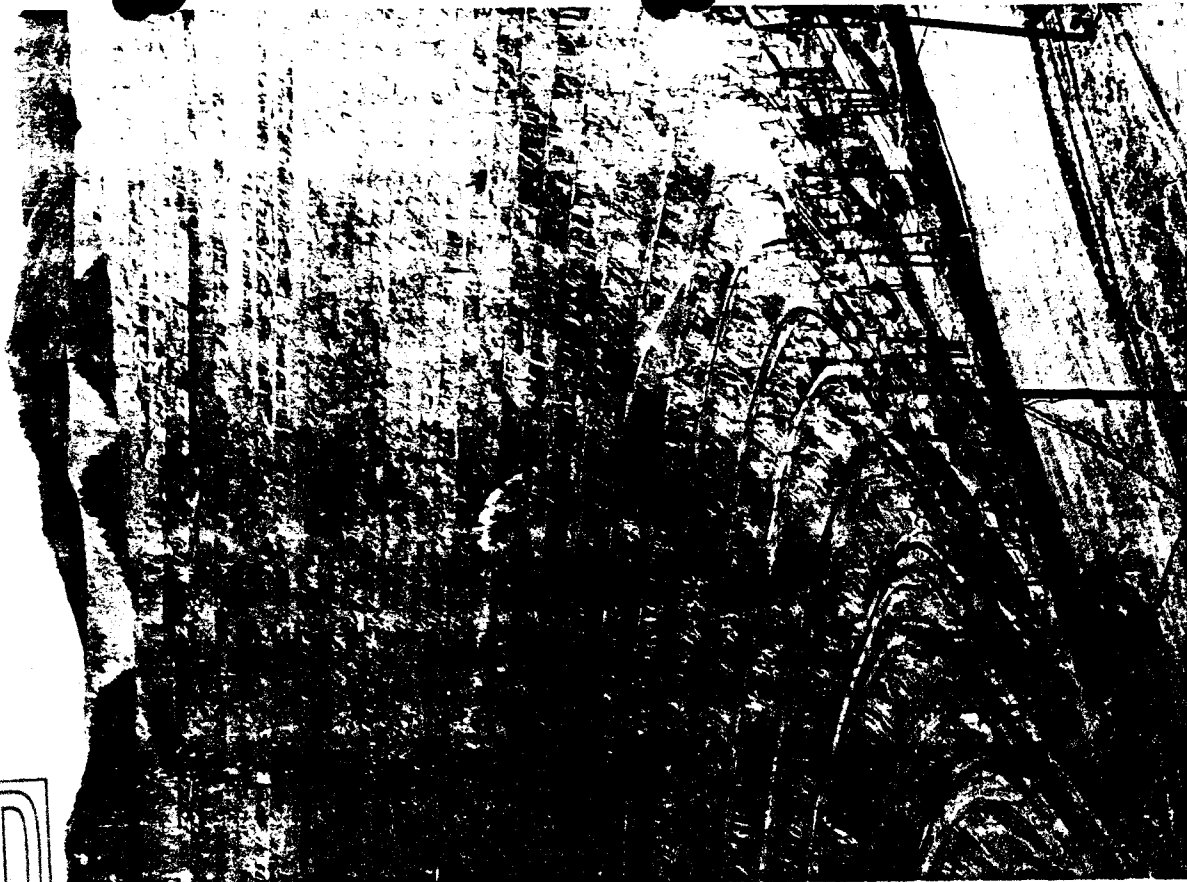
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B: 12/404320/4484050

C: 12/401100/4484180

D: 12/401160/4488080

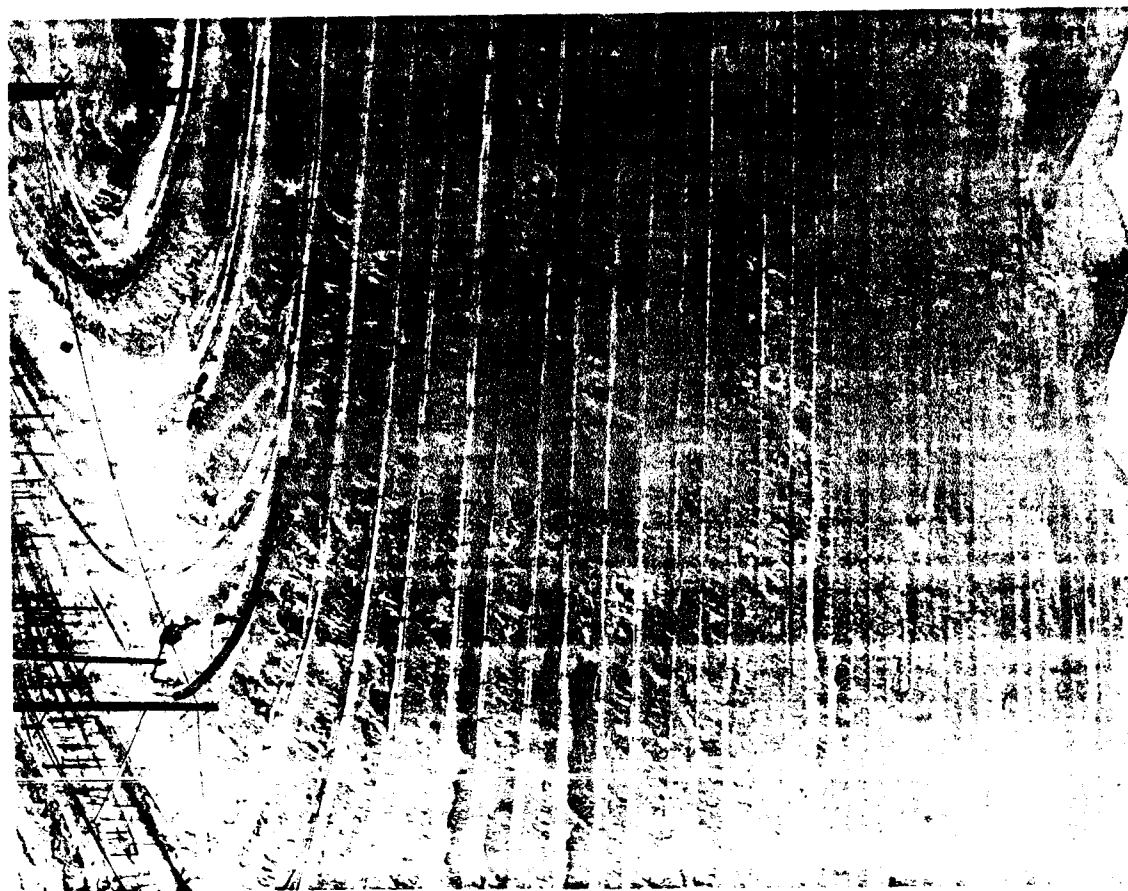




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DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING





United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H32(413)

File
Brigham
Copper mine
National
Landmark
M/035/002

SEP 27 1983

Mr. A. Kent Powell
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Division of State History
Utah State Historical Society
300 Rio Grande
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101-1182

Dear Mr. Powell:

Thank you for your letter of September 14, 1983 regarding the boundary proposed by the National Park Service for the Brigham Canyon Open Pit Copper Mine in Salt Lake County, Utah.

We appreciate your taking the time to review the proposed boundary for this National Historic Landmark. Your letter will be made part of the permanent record. When the comment period ends and all comments have been considered, you will be sent a letter confirming the final approval of the boundary.

We appreciate your interest in the National Historic Landmarks program.

Sincerely,

Carol D. Shull
Chief of Registration
National Register of Historic Places
Interagency Resources Division

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DIVISION OF
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DIVISION OF
OIL GAS AND MININGHeritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the InteriorSITE NOT VISITED
Office Review OnlyNATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK STATUS REPORT: 1978

M/035/002

I. General Background**1. Official Landmark name:** Bingham Canyon Open Pit Copper Mine**Address:** Mine located 16 miles SouthWest of Salt Lake City,
UT on Utah Highway 48.**2. Name, address, phone number of the Landmark owner:**

Kennecott Copper Corporation, Kennecott Bldg., SLC, UT (Phone: 521-3380)

3. Name, title, address, and phone number of person responsible for the management of the Landmark: (If same as person in number 2, write 'same').

Verne Huser, Public Relations Representative. Same address as #2.

4. Name, title, address and phone number of additional person(s) contacted about this Landmark:

Kent Powell and Wilson Martin, Coordinators, Historic Preservation, Office of Preservation, Utah State Historical Society, (Phone: 801-533-5755)

5. Name, region and phone number of HCRS official preparing report:

Robert Arkins, Assistant Regional Director, HCRS, MCRO, Denver. 234-3523

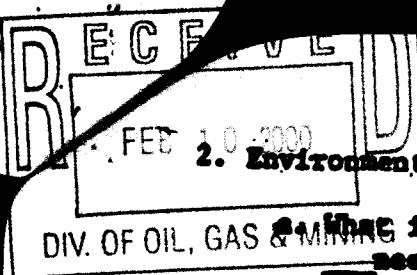
6. Date of this report:

June 22, 1978

II. Condition and Maintenance of Buildings, Sites and Historic Districts
(If Landmark is visited, provide photographs (or slides) of serious problems or possible threats)

No site visit conducted.

1. Architectural or Engineering Features**a. What is the general physical condition?** excellent ☒ good
needs repairs (explain)**b. Are there any obvious structural problems or water related problems?**
☒ no yes (describe)**c. Are there planned future building alterations or new construction?**
no ☒ yes (explain) The size of the open pit mine continues
to grow as mining continues.**d. Are there historic interior furnishings present?** yes ☒ no
Are they well cared for? yes no (explain)Will they be retained? yes no (explain)**e. Is there historic machinery or equipment present?** yes ☒ no
Is it well cared for? yes no (explain)Will it be retained? yes no (explain)



2. Environmental, Battlefield, Natural and Archeological Features N/A

a. What is the general condition of the site? excellent good
needs repairs (explain)

b. Are there visible archeological ruins, remains or artifacts? yes no
Are they well cared for? yes no (explain)

c. Has there been recent site disturbance, digging, or construction?
no yes (explain)

d. Are there plans for future site work or construction?
no yes (explain)

3. Historic District Features (Not a district)

a. What is the general physical condition of the buildings, roadways, and other historic features of the district? excellent good
needs repair (explain)

b. In general, what is the level of construction activity in the district?
high construction activity moderate low

c. Is there a local design review board, historic district commission, or other governmental body which reviews construction activity in the district? yes no

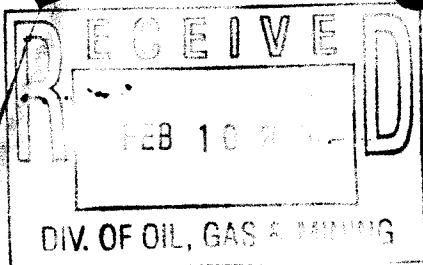
III. Building, Site, or Historic District Integrity

1. Are there any conditions on the lands adjacent to the Landmark that might result in serious impairment, diminishment, or destruction of Landmark resources, character, and/or significance? X no yes (explain)

2. Has there been an introduction of visual, audible, or atmospheric elements that are out of character with the property and its setting?
X no yes (explain)

3. Are there any potential threats (i.e., highways, adjacent construction, zoning changes, etc.) likely to occur in the future? X no yes (explain)

4. Is there any urgency regarding any of the threats? X no yes (explain)



-3-

5. Does the owner show interest in the long term preservation of the Landmark?
___no Xyes (explain)

IV. Supplementary Information

1. Does the Landmark have a plaque? Xyes ___no
Is it displayed? Xyes ___no
2. Has an agreement form been submitted? ___yes ___no
If no, does the owner wish to sign an agreement with HCRS? ___yes ___no

V. Comments

The mine continues to grow in size which will eventually require a relocation of the observation point and mine overlook area where the plaque is located. Conditions observed during the 1977 inspection are essentially the same in 1978.

Robert J. Lubina